

## Contributions.

### DESTROYING THE SIGNAL LIGHTS.

C. H. WETHERBE.

A writer says: "The engineer of a fast train on the Pennsylvania railroad discovered a man, one night not long since, at the top of a signal pole, at an important junction where three railroads crossed. He was destroying the signal-lamps with his fist. The poor fellow was insane and was doing it simply to enjoy the excitement that he would experience at witnessing a wreck. One can hardly help believing in these days that there are moral teachers so reckless and so intoxicated with the desire for notoriety that they are willing to destroy the signal-lights on the highways of life, in order to make a sensation, but they will fail, as this poor fellow did. He was insane, and, in a way, they are too. No man, except an insane man, or a demon, would destroy the signal-light that has kept generations from going to disaster and ruin, and leave no warning in its place.

God has put the signal-lights of danger too surely in his truth to have them destroyed by reckless hands. These careless teachers are the sensation of an hour, but the great truths of God's Word and of human nature are eternal verities that cannot be thrust aside by a sensationalist. True; and yet such teachers and preachers can do immense lot of harm to the young people of the land. While it is true that God's word abides and shall forever abide, yet it is also sadly true that destructive critics of the Word are educating skepticism in many weak and unstable minds. Many are being led away from the influences and impressions which they were early favored with from christian parents and godly friends. Woe be to him who seeks to destroy the signal-lights which have been set up by God to warn men of danger!

### BROTHERLY LOVE.

GEO. F. RONK.

This is the great vein that runs through all of St. John's writings, especially his epistles, where he urges it as the great and peculiar law of christianity, and without which all pretences to the religion of Jesus Christ are vain and frivolous, useless and insignificant. And this was his constant practice to the hour of his death; for, when age had rendered him so weak that he was unable to preach to the people any longer, tradition says he was constantly led at every public meeting, to the church at Ephesus, and always repeated to them the same precept,

"Little children, love one another," and when his hearers, weary with the constant repetition of the same thing, asked him why he never varied his discourse, he answered, "Because to love another was the command of our blessed Savior, and consequently one grand of our conduct through life. "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is no occasion of stumbling in him; but he that hateth his brother, is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes." Love and charity John practiced himself, and affectionately pressed them upon others.

But even John, the best beloved of Christ's disciples, who seems to have been more bountifully gifted with the Holy Spirit than the others, and to whom was revealed the New Jerusalem and the mysteries spoken of in Revelations was not worthy to be mentioned with our blessed Redeemer, who gave us such an example of love, when he put aside the glory of heaven and came down to earth to suffer even the ignominious death of the cross, that a cold and heedless world might be saved from the consequences of its own iniquities.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." St. John 3:16.

"And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us." Why, then, should we not follow more in the footsteps of him who evidently intended that our hearts should be so filled with love for our fellow-men, that we should not hesitate to meet even death for their soul's salvation.

Let us pray to the master, that our hearts may be more filled with that pure and unselfish love, which comes only from God, and which shall prompt us to give of our influence, our energy, and our substance to that great wave of missionary activity which is flooding our land today, and which is turning back many who have started down the great river of life, and are gliding swiftly and surely into the dark gulf of death, and before whom all is darkness, without one ray of hope to light their pathway.

I pick up a paper and note the membership of the Christian Endeavorers, the Epworth League, etc., and wonder at the Lord's great army, but, counting all, what are these compared with Asia's countless millions who have been sunk to the lowest depths of degradation by their own idolatry. But, Oh! think of the change that will come upon these people when Christianity's enlightening influence shall

be established in their land. Then will woman be raised from her present position, as man's slave, to her proper level as man's equal.

And here at home, in the center of the highest civilization on earth, not more than one-half of the people attend church. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: For the Father seeketh such to worship him."

Oh, let us prove that we worship the Father in spirit and in truth by trying to keep all of his commandments, even, "Go ye therefore into all the world and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

So many say: "We are not ready; we are not able to support a mission; where is the money going to come from;" seemingly forgetting that when Christ said: "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," if you do.

And to those who say, "The time is not yet," I answer as Jesus said, "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest. Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." St. John, 4:35.

Turlock, Cal.

### FOR THIS CAUSE.

J. M. BOWMAN.

"For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world." 1 Cor., 11:30-32

God chastens his children to save them from condemnation, or for their profit that they may become partakers of his holiness. Heb. 12:18. The chastening is not for punishment but for correction. Others may be allowed to go on for years in sin and unrighteousness without any sign of God's displeasure, but not so with the children of God who are living in a way that displeases Him. He seeks their profit, their safety from condemnation with the world.

We often lament about our failures. Churches wonder why their work lags and drags. Workers wonder why so many seem feeble and sickly. Individuals wonder why their christian life is so fitful. It is for this cause: They do not judge themselves fully by the word of God, so that they are often falling into sin and must be judged by God and corrected. Be sure that you can not go to